(c) the reasons due to which the rate of production is more in China inspite of the low cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Agricultural indicators given in the following tables show the comparative position of farming in India and China:

*Agricultural Indicators (in the year 2003)*

| Country | % Irrigated Land to Agricultural Land | Consumption of Mineral Fertilizers (Kg/Hectare) | No. of Tractors in Use (Lakh) |
|---|---|---|---|
| India | 32.9 | 94.8 | 25.28 |
| China | 35.3 | 258.7 | 9.95 |

*Productivity indicators of Important Crops (in the year 2005)*

(Kg/Hectare)

| Country | Paddy | Wheat | Maize | Groundnut | Soyabean | Sugarcane |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| India | 3000 | 2738 | 1959 | 894 | 957 | 61952 |
| China | 6329 | 4282 | 5059 | 2958 | 1779 | 66216 |

Source: Selected Indicators of Food & Agricultural Development in the Asia-Pacific Region 1995-2005

Barring the number of tractors in use, all other indicators given above are in favour of China. The Government of India has put in place several schemes to increase the productivity and production of agricultural commodities as also growth in agriculture sector.

(c) Table gives the producer price of some crops in India *vis-a-vis* China in 2005:

(US $/Tonne)

| Country | Paddy | Wheat | Maize | Groundnut | Soyabean |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| India | 149.83 | 167.20 | 120.22 | 430.01 | 277.06 |
| China | 150.92 | 135.33 | 115.95 | 490.74 | 309.62 |

Source: FAO website accessed on 21.08.2007

Producer price is not lower for all the crops in China. The productivity of most of the crops in India is low because of lower access to technology by small and marginal farmers, lack of high yielding varieties, low seed replacement rate and climatic aberrations.

**Prawn production**

1368. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to boost prawn production to touch Rs. 10,000 crores by 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the contribution of Orissa State in production of prawn; and

(d) what is the action plan of the Centre to help the Orissa State to develop this sector to boost its economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) There is scope to increase the area under coastal aquaculture and thereby the production of shrimp by bringing in an additional area of about one lakh hectare to produce about one lakh tonnes of shrimp in the next five years. However, no target in terms of value can be fixed for the next five years due to the fluctuations in the shrimp price in the international market and the exchange rate of rupee.

(b) The measures taken by the Government in order to boost prawn/shrimp production in the country include:

i. Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs), numbering 429 and Brakishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (BFDAs) numbering 39 have been set up who provide a package of technical, financial and extension support to prawn/shrimp farmers for production of fresh water prawn (scampi) as well as brakishwater shrimp.

ii. Financial assistance in the form of subsidy is also provided to the beneficiaries through these agencies to undertake farming activities.

iii. Coastal States have been asked to review the land lease policy to bring in additional areas for coastal aquaculture.

iv. Guidelines have been formulated under the rules framed under the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005 for regulating coastal aquaculture to ensure sustainable development of shrimp aquaculture in the country and for adopting Good Management Practices.

v. The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has approved a proposal to set up a Multiplication Centre by availing technology from a Hawaiian firm to produce Specific Pathogen Free seeds of *P. monodon* for supply to the shrimp farmers.

vi. Risk analysis/assessment study has been undertaken to study and advise the Government on the pros and cons of introducing exotic shrimp variety and for suggesting a clear and well regulated mechanism for importation of stocks of such species.

(c) Production of prawn/shrimp through culture operations in Orissa during 2005-06 is about 10419 Metric Tonnes.

(d) Measures taken by the Government to develop this sector in the country, as explained in part (b) of the question, are applicable to Orissa State also.